

ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR

1909,

ON THE

BOROUGH OF EVESHAM,

AND

EVESHAM,

PERSHORE AND FECKENHAM

RURAL DISTRICTS,

WITH

APPENDICES

ON

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING, CONTRIBUTIONS
TO SANATORIA, DISINFECTANTS, ETC.

BY

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

PERSHORE :

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BRIDGE STREET.

To the Evesham Corporation.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1909. This assumes a somewhat stereotype form, not only because I have presented so many others, but also because the statistics are presented on statutory forms. An advantage of this is, that comparison between past years is readily made.

Copies will, as usual, be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Statistical Data.

The following Tables I, III, IV, and V, are given as required by the Local Government Board.

Table II. is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Borough.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the end of 1909.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899.	7,545	208	27.5	20	96	103	13.6	5	3	5	130	17.0
1900.	7,645	212	27.7	31	146	128	16.7	9	3	7	100	14.0
1901.	7,101	229	32.2	21	91	96	13.5	2	2	6	103	14.5
1902.	7,101	219	30.8	29	132	99	13.9	14	8	10	109	15.3
1903.	7,101	238	33.5	35	147	107	15.0	13	5	3	98	13.6
1904.	7,101	209	29.4	17	81	100	14.0	10	7	8	110	14.0
1905.	7,800	228	29.2	31	136	109	13.9	8	6	9	104	13.2
1906.	7,800	224	28.7	32	142	101	12.9	6	1	7	99	11.9
1907.	8,290	234	28.2	16	68	93	11.2	6	1	7	100	12.0
1908.	8,290	234	28.2	16	68	94	11.3	6	1	7	100	12.0
Averages for years 1899-1908.	7,577	223	29.5	24	110	103	13.6	8	4	6	105	13.9
1909.	8,300	216	26.1	24	111	97	11.6	7	5	14	106	12.7

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there, and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1909.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	16		4	9		3		15
Erysipelas	9							
Scarlet Fever ..	10		2	7	1			9
Typhus Fever ..								
Enteric Fever ..	1					1		
Relapsing Fever ..								
Continued Fever ..								
Puerperal Fever ..								
Plague								
Totals ..	36		6	16	1	4		24

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1909.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.
Small-pox							
Measles	1		1				
Scarlet Fever ..							
Whooping-cough ..							
Diphtheria and mem- branous croup ..	1			1			
Croup							
Fever { Typhus ..	1					1	
Enteric ..							
Other continued							
Epidemic Influenza ..	2				1		1
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa	1	1					
Enteritis	1	1					
Puerperal fever ..							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases ..							
Phthisis	6				2	4	
Other tubercular di- seases	3	1		1		1	
Cancer, malignant di- sease	9					6	3
Bronchitis	11	2	1			3	5
Pneumonia	4	1	1			1	1
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs ..	4	2				1	1
Alcoholism	2					2	
Cirrhosis of liver }							
Venereal diseases ..							
Premature birth ..	3	3					
Diseases and accidents of parturition ..	1				1		
Heart diseases ..	11					6	5
Accidents	1					1	
Suicides							
Senile decay	12						12
.....							
.....							
.....							
All other causes ..	32	13	6	2		6	5
All causes ..	106	24	9	4	4	32	33

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified..	3	1	1	3	8	1	2	1	1	2	2	3			1	1	22
	Uncertified	1	1			2												2
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox ...																	
	Chicken Pox ..																	
	Measles ..																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
	Diphtheria: including Membranous Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough																	
	Diarrhoea, all forms							1			1							2
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis															1		1
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	2		1		3												3
	Congenital defects																	
	Injury at Birth..																	
	Want of Breast Milk, Starvation																	
Tuberculous Diseases.	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1	1		2	4	1	1			1							7
	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases											1						1
Other Causes	Erysipelas ..																	
	Syphilis ..																	
	Rickets ..																1	1
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions ..												1					1
	Bronchitis ..									1			1					2
	Laryngitis ..																	
	Pneumonia ..								1			1	1					3
	Suffocation, overlying																	
	Other Causes	1	1		1	3												3
		4	2	1	3	10	1	2	1	1	2	2	3			1	1	24

Table I shows that 216 births were registered in 1909, and that the birth rate amounted to 26.1 per 1000 of the population; as compared with an average rate during the 10 years 1899-1908 of 29.5. The corresponding rate of England and Wales amounted to 25.6 per 1000 of the population, a rate which is 0.9 per 1000 below that in 1908, and lower than the rate of any other year on record; compared with the average in the ten years 1899-1908, this birth rate in 1909 showed a decrease of 2.2 per 1000. The regrettable decline in the Birth rate therefore continues not only in the Borough, but also in the country generally.

To some extent however this is counterbalanced by the general decrease in the Infantile Mortality; nevertheless, as I have mentioned in former reports, such lowering of the Birth rate is deplorable, and if continued must affect the national welfare. All Births which occur have, since August 1st last, been notified to me as County Medical Officer, within 36 hours of their occurrence.

Table I. shows that the total number of deaths registered in the Borough in 1909 was 97, and that the death rate upon this basis amounted to 11.6. On the other hand the "net death rate," arrived at by excluding "deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the Borough" and including "deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions" outside, but who belonged to it, equalled 12.7. This is satisfactory.

Last year (Table 1) there were 14 deaths of "residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district" who belonged to Evesham, viz. in Evesham Workhouse 12, Worcester Infirmary 2.

The death rate in England and Wales in 1909 was 14.5 per 1000, which is 0.2 per 1000 below the rate in 1908, and lower than the rate in any other year on record; compared with the average rate in the 10 years 1899-1908 the death rate in 1909 showed a decrease of 1.6 per 1000.

The "infantile mortality" of 1909 was 111 per 1000 deaths registered; the standard of a healthy district being about 100. Details are given in Table V., which shows that 10 of the 24 deaths which gave this mortality were due to "Wasting Diseases," and 10 were in children under 1 month. With the view of lessening this loss of life, circulars as to the up-bringing of infants are sent to mothers who are attended by midwives.

TABLE VI.

Rates per 1,000 of population.

	All causes.	Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
Borough of Evesham	11.6	0.4	0.0	0.12	0.0	0.12	0.0	0.12	0.12	111
England and Wales	14.5	1.12	0.0	0.35	0.09	0.14	0.20	0.06	0.28	109

These show that the local zymotic death rates compare favourably with those of England and Wales.

Scarlet Fever.

Table VII. shows the monthly incidence of Scarlet Fever.

TABLE VII.

No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Jan. (1), Mar. (1), May (1), June (1), Sept. (1), Oct. (1), Nov. (1), Dec (3).	10	

Nine of these cases were removed to the Sanatorium, and the other one was isolated at home. It will be seen that the outbreaks of this disease have been few, and that no death (Table IV.) was attributed to it.

Diphtheria.

Table VIII. shows the monthly incidence of Diphtheria.

TABLE VIII.

No. of cases in each month.			Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Jan. (3), Apr. (3),	Feb. (2), Sept. (1),	Mar. (6), Nov. (1),	16	March 9th, 1909.

Eleven of the 16 cases notified in 1909 occurred in the early part of the year. A full report on the local incidence, causation and prevention of diphtheria are given in my last Annual Report, and I have now no further suggestions to make.

Your decision to retain the services of Dr. Harry to take "Swabs" from the throats of School Children found to have been exposed to infection, has, as I anticipated, been attended with beneficial results. The gratuitous distribution of antitoxin, without question did good.

Typhoid Fever.

One case of Typhoid fever was notified during the year, and had a fatal termination on April 20th; the patient was not removed to the Sanatorium, and contracted his disease away from the Borough.

Consumption (Phthisis).

Table IX. shows the number of deaths and death rates from Consumption in each of the years 1902-1909 inclusive.

TABLE IX.

	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902
No. of Deaths in District	6	7	12	11	7	7	9	5
District Death rate*	7.0	8.0	15.0	14.0	8.0	9.0	12.0	6.0
County Death rate*	Not yet known	8.1	7.8	7.8	8.0	7.7	7.5	8.4

* Per 10,000 of the population.

In my last Annual Report I wrote a special memorandum on this disease, and in it dealt with the "Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations," issued by the Local Government Board on December 18th, 1908. I also advised that the Medical Men in the Borough should be asked to *voluntarily* notify cases occurring in their practice, and that you should pay a notification fee of 2/6 for each certificate.

Five cases of Consumption were notified to me under the "Regulations," and five voluntarily during 1909, and in these instances the "Leaflet" set forth on page 74 of my last report was circulated and explained, and disinfection of infected houses carried out as far as practicable.

In my "Memorandum" just referred to, I suggested a plan of treating the "advanced" cases in your Smallpox Hospital, but hitherto no action has been taken in the matter.

I wish to draw your attention to the copy of a letter issued by the Local Government Board, given as Appendix B, as it points out that Local Authorities can contribute to the support of Consumption Sanatoria (such as the excellent Worcestershire Sanatorium at Knightwick), and urges them to do so. I hope therefore that this question will receive your sympathetic consideration.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

During 1909 the total number of patients treated at the Sanatorium was 69, viz :

Diseases.	Evesham Borough.		Evesham Rural District.		Pebworth Rural District.		Total Cases.	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ..	9	—	6	—	1	—	16	—
Diphtheria ..	15	—	30	2	8	1	53	3
Typhoid Fever..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	24	—	36	2	9	1	69	3

The Joint Hospital for Smallpox maintained by you and the Evesham and Pershore District Councils, is in good order, and although constantly kept in readiness, has not been required.

Disinfection.

I ask you to consider my Memorandum on this subject given as Appendix C.

Schools.

It was not necessary to close any school in the Borough during the past year, in order to prevent the spread of disease.

A full report made by your Sanitary Inspector on the sanitary condition of the schools was given in my last report; the flushing apparatus for the urinal which was said to be necessary at the Bengeworth schools has not yet been provided. The insanitary conditions then existing at the Swan Lane schools will shortly be done away with, as the schools are now being rebuilt.

House accommodation.

During 1909, 36 houses were built, 22 were made fit for habitation and 1 Court was paved. I wish to call your special attention to the Housing and Town Planning Act which came into force on the 3rd December 1909; a résumé of which is given in Appendix A of this Report. This Act strengthens your powers to a great extent, and imposes considerable responsibilities upon you and your officers; and I feel sure that in your hands it will be administered to the full. Already I have made a representation as required by S. 17 with respect to 7 cottages in Chapel Street and Mill Street, which were unfit for habitation. I have also made representations with regard to houses in Naylor's Row and Workman's Row, and these are receiving attention.

Sewerage.

800 yards of 12-inch relief sewer have been laid from Bridge Street to the Outfall works, and a 6-inch sewer put down for the drainage of the Secondary school and adjoining properties.

Sewage disposal.

All the septic tanks have been cleansed without causing any nuisance, and your Surveyor tells me that the "Fiddians Distributors" are working well. A new recording apparatus is about to be fixed at the works, to gauge the flow of sewage. I stated last year that I understood it was proposed to put down two percolating filters in the near future. This however has not yet been done, but it is hoped will be taken in hand shortly.

Water Supply.

The new Reservoir near to Broadway is now being covered with concrete, and it is anticipated that the work will be completed about the middle of April, 1910. In this way, 2,000,000 gallons of water will be stored for use during the summer.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Thirteen purveyors of Milk and 4 Dairymen are on the Register. The Cowsheds of two Dairymen have been re-floored and drained, and the owner of another has promised to put it in order forthwith. The Milk vessels are also periodically inspected by your Surveyor.

Slaughter-houses.

I reported last year that the four slaughter houses in the Borough had been much improved; but quite recently I found that two of them still had pervious walls, with the result that they could not be kept as clean as they would be if the walls were impervious. I therefore suggested that the owners should be asked to cement or tile the walls to a height of 7 feet, and they are prepared to do this.

Bake-houses.

There are 14 bake-houses in the Borough; and during the year two have been closed (one temporarily) and another built. The bakehouse that has been temporarily closed should not be allowed to be re-opened again until it has been re-constructed. During my recent inspection I found that the ventilation of three bake-houses needs improvement, and that the floors of three others are not kept nearly as clean as they ought to be. One of the last-named I have always found in that condition when I visited it, and I suggest that if this continues, pressure should be brought to bear upon the occupier to keep it cleaner.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 20 Factories and 143 Workshops in the Borough; the various trades included in this category are given in my last Annual Report. These have been recently inspected and the sanitary arrangements generally found to be adequate. Limewashing has been carried out where required. A Dressmakers' Workshop has been enlarged.

Common Lodging-houses.

At a recent visit I found that the three Common Lodging Houses were clean, but I had to call attention to the fact that the beds were not made at 3 p.m.

I append the Report of your Sanitary Inspector.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,
County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,
March, 1910.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year
ending 31st December, 1909.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health	No. of cases enquired into - - - -	36
	No. of houses disinfected and cleansed - -	27
	No. of patients removed to Hospital - -	24
	Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed - - - -	27
	Cases of illegal exposure reported - -	—
	Phthisis cases visited and disinfectants supplied	5
Houses	No. erected (if information obtainable) -	36
	No. made fit for habitation - - - -	22
	No. closed as unfit for habitation - - -	—
	No. cleansed and lime-washed - - - -	2
Overcrowding	No. of cases abated - - - -	4
House-drains.	No. laid or re-laid - - - -	51
	No. cleansed, trapped and ventilated - -	46
	No. of defective waste-pipes rectified - -	5
	No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified - - - -	1
	No. of dumb wells rectified - - - -	1
Water Closets.	No. of additional W. C.'s provided - -	40
	No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns - - - -	43
Privies and Ash-pits.	No. of additional privies and ashpits provided	—
	No. converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets -	—
	No. converted to pail-closets - - - -	—
	No. repaired - - - -	—
Dust Receptacles (portable).	No. of new dust receptacles provided -	—
Scavenging	Total No of houses from which refuse removable	1736
	Total No. of privies and ashpits cleansed -	—
	Total No. of portable receptacles cleansed -	4
	Total No. of loads of ashes and excrement removed - - - -	52
	Total No. of loads of ashes and refuse removed	2044
Smoke Nuisances.	No. under observation - - - -	1
	No. abated - - - -	—
Offensive Trades.	No. under observation - - - -	—
	No. improperly conducted - - - -	—
Water Supply.	No. of wells sunk - - - -	—
	No. of wells cleansed and repaired - -	—
	No. of wells closed as polluted - - -	—
	No. of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) - - - -	36
	No. of samples of water sent for analysis -	18
Slaughter Houses.	No. registered or licensed - - - -	4
	No. regularly inspected - - - -	4
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - -	4

Factories and Workshops.	No. under inspection (not including 20 factories) - - - - -	163
	No. certified for lime-washing by Inspector - - - - -	—
	No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as Nuisances - - - - -	1
	No. employing "young persons," &c., reported to Medical Officer of Health - - - - -	—
Shop Hours Act.	No. of shops under supervision - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Act dealt with - - - - -	—
Dairies and Cowsheds.	No. of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision (13 purveyors 4 dairymen) - - - - -	17
	No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye-laws dealt with (new floor and drainage) - - - - -	2
	No. of infected milk supplies reported by Inspector - - - - -	—
Canal Boats.	No. of boats on Register - - - - -	—
	No. of boats registered during year - - - - -	—
	No. of certificates renewed - - - - -	—
	No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with - - - - -	—
Lodging Houses.	No. on Register - - - - -	3
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	3
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	—
Food.	No. of seizures as unfit for consumption - - - - -	—
Food and Drugs Act.	No. of samples taken for analysis - - - - -	—
	No. of samples certified genuine - - - - -	—
	No. of samples certified adulterated - - - - -	—
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	No. of cases of removal on notice - - - - -	1
Accumulation of Offensive Refuse.	No. of removals - - - - -	10
Legal proceedings	No. taken - - - - -	—
	No. of convictions obtained - - - - -	—
	No. of cases withdrawn or dismissed - - - - -	—
Clerical Work.	No. of official letters written - - - - -	62
	No. of notices served - - - - -	223
	No. of notices complied with - - - - -	211
	No. of notices outstanding - - - - -	12

Remarks :

A new Public Urinal with W.C.'s for both sexes have been provided on Merstow Green.

New County Council Secondary Schools and New Elementary Schools are being built. The New Public Hall and Library was opened in April.

Eight hundred yards of 12 in. relief sewer has been laid from Bridge Street to the Outfall Works. A new 6 in. sewer has been laid in Inches Lane for the drainage of the Secondary Schools and adjoining properties.

(Signed) H. S. HARVEY,

26th February, 1910.

Sanitary Inspector.

To the Evesham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report, which refers to the year 1909. It is framed on the usual lines, and embodies the Tables issued by the Local Government Board.

Copies will, as usual, be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Statistical Data.

The following Tables I, III, IV, and V, are given as required by the Local Government Board.

Table II. is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Evesham Rural District.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the end of 1909.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS.	Deaths of Non- Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899.	7,142	226	31.6	18	79	120	16.8	22	7	2	103	14.4
1900.	7,142	222	31.0	17	76	108	15.1	24	7	2	108	14.2
1901.	7,584	229	30.1	23	100	113	14.9	7	5	7	89	11.7
1902.	7,584	201	26.5	14	69	87	11.4	18	9	6	97	12.7
1903.	7,584	195	25.7	16	82	100	13.1	23	6	6	96	12.6
1904.	7,584	214	28.2	9	42	96	12.6	24	11	9	99	13.0
1905.	7,584	208	27.4	13	62	101	13.3	26	15	6	117	14.9
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1907.	7,820	211	26.9	17	80	120	15.3	21	12	2	111	14.0
1908.	7,900	192	24.3	13	67	121	15.3					
Averages for years 1899-1908.	7,574	210	27.7	14	69	109	14.3	21	9	5	103	13.4
1909.	7,900	211	26.7	15	71	116	14.1	29	19	5	102	12.4

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term “Non-residents” is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there, and by the term “Residents” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1909.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	30	1	3	26				30
Erysipelas	3							
Scarlet Fever ..	8		2	5	1			6
Typhus Fever ..								
Enteric Fever ..								
Relapsing Fever ..								
Continued Fever ..								
Puerperal Fever ..								
Plague								
Totals ..	41	1	5	31	1			36

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1909.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet Fever							
Whooping-cough							
Diphtheria and mem- branous croup							
Croup							
Fever { Typhus							
{ Enteric							
{ Other continued							
Epidemic Influenza	2						2
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa							
Enteritis	2	1	1				
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis	5					5	
Other tubercular di- seases	6			1	2	2	1
Cancer, malignant di- sease	11					6	5
Bronchitis	4	3					1
Pneumonia	4					3	1
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs							
Alcoholism	1					1	
Cirrhosis of liver }							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	6	6					
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1					1	
Heart diseases	14					5	9
Accidents	3	1				2	
Suicides							
Senile decay	13						13
.....							
.....							
.....							
All other causes	30	4	1		1	9	15
All causes	102	15	2	1	3	34	47

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified...	8		1		9		2	1	1				1				14
	Uncertified	1				1												1
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox ...																	
	Chicken Pox ..																	
	Measles ..																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
	Diphtheria: including Membranous Croup																	
	Whooping Cough																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis, Muco-																	
	enteritis, Gastro-enteritis																	
Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth	6				6												6
	Congenital defects																	
Tuberculous Diseases.	Injury at Birth..																	
	Want of Breast																	
	Milk, Starvation																	
Other Causes.	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1				1	1							1				3
	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
Other Causes.	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
	Erysipelas ..																	
	Syphilis ..																	
Other Causes.	Rickets ..																	
	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)							1										1
	Convulsions ..																	
Other Causes.	Bronchitis ..			1		1	1		1									3
	Laryngitis ..																	
	Pneumonia ..																	
Other Causes.	Suffocation, overlying																	
	Other Causes ..	2				2												2
		9		1		10	2	1	1					1				15

Table I shows that 211 births were registered in 1909, and that the birth rate amounted to 26·7 per 1,000 of the population ; as compared with an average rate during the 10 years 1899-1908 of 27·7.

The corresponding rate of England and Wales amounted to 25·6 per 1,000 of the population, a rate which is 0·9 per 1,000 below that in 1908, and lower than the rate of any other year on record ; compared with the average in the 10 years 1899-1908, this birth rate in 1909 showed a decrease of 2·2 per 1,000.

I regret to say the local birth rate appears to be declining, as is generally the case throughout England.

As the County Council have adopted the " Notification of Births Act," all births occurring in your District, have to be reported to me within 36 hours of their occurrence.

Table I. shows that the total number of deaths registered in the District in 1909 was 116, and that the death rate upon this basis amounted to 14·1. On the other hand the " net death rate," arrived at by excluding " deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District " and including " deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District" who belonged to it, only equalled 12·4, which is satisfactory.

Last year (Table 1) 5 local residents died in Public Institutions outside the district, viz. Powick Asylum 2, Barnsley Hall 2, Birmingham General Hospital 1.

The death rate in England and Wales in 1909 was 14·5 per 1000, which is 0·2 per 1000 below the rate in 1908, and lower than the rate in any other year on record ; compared with the average rate in the 10 years 1899-1908 the death rate in 1909 showed a decrease of 1·6 per 1000.

The " infantile mortality " of 1909 was as low as 71 per 1000 deaths registered, as compared with 100, the standard of a healthy district. Details of these deaths are given in Table V.

TABLE VI.
Rates per 1,000 of population.

	All causes.	Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
Evesham Rural District	14·1	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·0	71
England and Wales	14·5	1·12	0·0	0·35	0·09	0·14	0·20	0·06	0·28	109

Scarlet Fever.

Table VII. shows the monthly incidence of Scarlet Fever.

TABLE VII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Badsey	September (1),	1	
Broadway	December (1),	1	
Gt. Hampton	March (1),	1	
Radford, near Rous Lench	July (1),	1	
Wickhamford	May (2), September (2),	4	
	March (1), May (2), July (1), September (3), December (1),	8	None.

Six of these patients were removed to the Sanatorium, and 2 were isolated at home.

This shows that the outbreaks of this disease were few, and unimportant.

Diphtheria.

Table VIII. shows the monthly incidence of Diphtheria.

TABLE VIII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Aldington	June (1),	1	
Badsey	Feb. (1), Mar. (6), June (10), July (1), Sept. (2),	20	
Broadway	Mar. (2),	2	
Hampton	July (2),	2	
Wickhamford	June (1), July (3), Sept. (1),	5	
	Feb. (1), Mar. (8), June (12), July (6), Sept. (3),	30	None.

It will be seen that 25 of the 30 cases occurred in the parishes of Badsey and Wickhamford which—particularly in scholastic matters—are so intimately associated. This outbreak, as I explained in my Quarterly Report for June last, was due to infection conveyed through the schools by children having “sore throat,” and that no one was to blame for this. Acting on my advice, you (with the approval of the Local Government Board) arranged with Dr. Harry,* as it was impracticable for me to visit the district at a moment’s notice, to take “swabs” from infected children’s throats, and send them to the laboratory for examination.

The result of this was most satisfactory, as it enabled children who were infectious to be excluded from school. I am convinced it materially assisted in suppressing the outbreak.

All the patients were treated at the sanatorium. The Badsey schools had to be closed from March 16th to June 16th, and again on August 4th for four days, immediately after the “swabs” were taken.

The other cases require no comment.

Typhoid Fever.

The district was quite free from this disease during the year.

Consumption (Phthisis).

The following shews the deaths and death rates due to Consumption during the past 10 years.

	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900
No. of Deaths	5	7	4	15	6	2	6	6	5	10
Death rate*	6.3	8.0	5.0	19.0	7.0	2.0	7.0	7.0	6.0	12.0
County Death rate*	Not known	8.1	7.8	7.8	8.0	7.7	7.5	8.4	7.9	8.5

* Per 10,000 of the population.

Six cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were “notified” during the year, *i.e.* : 4 were reported voluntarily, and 2 as required by “Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations” issued by the Local Government Board.

The former were reported because, I am glad to say, you have agreed with the local medical men to pay their fees for doing so;

* Dr. Harry took “swabs” twice (1 himself and 1 his deputy).

but the latter were notified compulsorily without fee, as Poor Law Officials are now required to report pauper cases. The requirements of these "Regulations" are fully set out in the "Appendix" (p. 69) of my last Annual Report.

Consumption patients are visited soon after they are reported, and the "leaflet" of "General Directions" (given at p. 74 of my 1908 Report) is explained to the patients, and advice given thereon.

These visits are repeated at intervals of about three months.

The houses in which the patients live are inspected, and disinfected with Formalin when requisite.

I wish to call your attention to Appendix B. which shows you the Local Government Board urge Rural District Councils to send patients to open-air Sanatoria, and that they can, if they choose, vote money for the purpose. As the eradication of consumption is so important, I hope this question will receive your sympathetic consideration.

My suggestion for utilizing your Smallpox Hospital for the treatment of "advanced cases" (Report for 1908, page 75) during the time that Institution is not required for Smallpox, has not yet, so far as I know, been considered.

Schools.

The following Table shows the schools closed during the year.

Schools.	Date.	Period.	Cause.
Badsey Council	March 16th	Until after Easter Holidays	} Diphtheria Ditto Diphtheria. For Bacteriological Tests
Ditto	June 16th	2½ weeks	
Ditto	August 9th	4 days	

Last year, as required by the Local Government Board, I gave the Sanitary Inspector's report on each of the elementary schools in the district, which showed that alteration of the excrement disposal of some schools was needed. The whole of the material improvements recommended and described on pages 18—20 of my last Annual Report have been carried out; except at Broadway, Hampton, and Bretforton, where the urinals are still flushed by rain-water or by hand, although water-works are available. The same state of things obtains at Offenham where, however, there are no water works.

Isolation Hospital. Disinfection.

For the number of patients treated see page 9.

As erroneous notions with regard to disinfection and disinfectants are common, I ask you to consider my memorandum on these subjects given as Appendix C.

Housing of the Working Classes.

During the year 52 houses have been built, 18 have been rendered fit for habitation, and 3 have been closed as unfit for habitation. The Housing and Town Planning Act, to which I have referred in my last two Annual Reports, became law on the 3rd December, 1909, and as previously mentioned, places great responsibilities upon District Councils and their officers. A résumé of the sanitary provisions of this Act is given in Appendix A., which I would ask you to consider. To show that you have every intention of administering the Act to the fullest extent, I may mention that 4 closing orders have been made under the Act, since it came into force.

So far as I am aware, these are some of the first Closing Orders under the Act that have been made in the county.

Pea Pickers..

This subject was also fully dealt with in my last two Annual Reports, and more especially in that for 1907. A Conference of District Councillors, Pea Growers, and Pea Buyers, was held at your offices during the year, when Dr. Farrar, the Medical Inspector of the Local Government Board who reported on the subject, attended. This however resulted in no practical decision being arrived at.

A Conference of Local Authorities, and persons interested, was held at the Shirehall, Worcester, on November 22nd last, at which the following resolutions were passed:

1. "That farmers and buyers of peas be urged to engage their pickers beforehand for the whole period of the picking, and only to employ those so engaged"
2. "That in the opinion of this Conference the employer of the labour should be held responsible for the proper accommodation of those whom he employs."

Since then you have invited the Salvation Army to establish a "Canteen" in the district during the coming pea picking season, and it is hoped they may do so, as their Representative stated at the Worcester Conference that he favoured such a proposal.

Sewerage.

The contemplated sewerage scheme for Bretforton has not been definitely decided upon, as negotiations for the purchase of land for the out-fall works are not yet completed. There seems however every probability that the scheme will be taken in hand in the near future.

During the year I had to complain of the way in which the tenant of the Broadway Irrigation Farm managed it, as he was so altering the levels of the soil that the sewage could not be properly distributed over it and consequently the effluent was a bad one. Since then, you have required this tenant to re-level the farm, and to carry out his contract, and I understand he is doing so.

I intend to carefully watch the disposal of the Broadway Sewage during the present year.

Badsey.

The sewerage works have been satisfactory during the year, except that temporary trouble with the "sewage distributors" was experienced.

Water Supply.

The Evesham Villages Water Scheme continues to be greatly appreciated by the ratepayers.

Offenham.

I mentioned last year that the Sanitary Committee had instructed their Inspector to take samples from the wells in Offenham, as there was reason for thinking that many of them were contaminated. This has now been done, with the following result:

Twelve samples were first taken and forwarded to the County Analyst, who condemned 11 of them.

Ten of the condemned wells were cleansed and 9 of these re-analysed, and also condemned. Since then, 11 other samples, selected from wells chosen by the District Councillor, were submitted for analysis, and of these, 6 were found to be unfit for drinking, three were fit, and 2 were dangerous to health, as they gave evidence of previous contamination.

This matter has now been referred by the District Council to the Parish Council for consideration, in order that they may have an opportunity of expressing their opinion as to what remedial measures are to be taken.

Slaughter-houses.

There are still 7 Slaughter houses in different parts of the district; these have been regularly inspected and limewashed, and are now in a good condition. Two which were unsatisfactory a short time ago, have since been altered to comply with the bye-laws.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 25 Dairymen and purveyors of milk in the District, as compared with 23 in 1908. These premises have all been systematically inspected. During the year two Cowsheds have been reconstructed, one is in course of reconstruction, and a new one, arranged on good sanitary principles, has been built. Your Inspector keeps a vigilant eye on the Cowsheds and has effected considerable improvements during the year. The "Milk Bill" which I expected the President of the Local Government Board would bring before Parliament last year, has not yet become law, although he mentioned it in one of his speeches. I am afraid, however, there is not much probability of its being introduced into Parliament during the coming session. It is believed that all the dairymen in the district are not registered, consequently your Inspector is making enquiries as to this.

Bake-houses.

The 14 bakehouses have also been regularly inspected. Four have been limewashed after notice, and one has been repaired. The others were found to be clean and satisfactory.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 108 Factories and Workshops in the district as follows :

Bootmakers, 4, Basketmakers, 2, Blacksmiths, 13, Breweries, 4, Carpenters, 12, Laundries, 2, Tailors, 2, Saddlers, 1, Bakehouses, 14, Gloveresses, 54. Total, 108.

I have received full reports from your Inspector with regard to each of these. Nearly the whole of them are in a satisfactory condition, and some few have been improved. I shall be pleased to lay the details before you, if you wish for me to do so.

Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1907.

With the approval of the Local Government Board, the following sections of this Act now apply to the District, viz. : sect. 23, 25, and 34 to 68 (inclusive).

I append the Report of your Sanitary Inspector.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,
County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,
March, 1910.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year
ending 31st December, 1909.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health	No. of cases enquired into - - - -	36
	No. of houses disinfected and cleansed - -	28
	No. of patients removed to Hospital - -	35
	Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed - - - -	30
	Cases of illegal exposure reported - -	—
Houses	No. erected (if information obtainable) -	52
	No. made fit for habitation - - - -	18
	No. closed as unfit for habitation - - -	3
	No. cleansed and lime-washed - - - -	8
Overcrowding	No. of cases abated - - - -	5
House-drains.	No. laid or re-laid - - - -	66
	No. cleansed, trapped and ventilated - -	33
	No. of defective waste-pipes rectified - -	6
	No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified - - - -	7
	No. of dumb wells rectified - - - -	5
Water Closets.	No. of additional W. C.'s provided - -	41
	No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns - - - -	6
Privies and Ash-pits.	No. of additional privies and ashpits provided	4
	No. converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets - -	22
	No. converted to pail-closets - - - -	4
	No. repaired - - - -	12
Dust Receptacles (portable).	No. of new dust receptacles provided - -	—
Scavenging	Total No. of houses from which refuse removable	—
	Total No. of privies and ashpits cleansed -	—
	Total No. of portable receptacles cleansed -	—
	Total No. of loads of ashes and excrement removed - - - -	—
	Total No. of loads of ashes and refuse removed	—
Smoke Nuisances.	No. under observation - - - -	—
	No. abated - - - -	—
Offensive Trades.	No. under observation - - - -	—
	No. improperly conducted - - - -	—
Water Supply.	No. of wells sunk - - - -	3
	No. of wells cleansed and repaired - -	10
	No. of wells closed as polluted - - -	—
	No. of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) - - - -	59
	No. of samples of water sent for analysis -	22
Slaughter Houses.	No. registered or licensed - - - -	7
	No. regularly inspected - - - -	7
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - -	7

Factories and Wors hops.	No. under inspection - - - -	108
	No. certified for lime-washing by Inspector -	7
	No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as Nuisances - - - -	9
	No. employing "young persons," &c., reported to Medical Officer of Health - - -	—
Shop Hours Act.	No. of shops under supervision - - -	—
	No of contraventions of Act dealt with - -	—
Dairies and Cowsheds.	No. of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision - .	24
	No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye- laws dealt with - - - -	10
	No. of infected milk supplies reported by Inspector - - - -	—
Canal Boats.	No. of boats on Register - - - -	—
	No. of boats registered during year - -	—
	No. of certificates renewed - - - -	—
	No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) - - - -	—
	No of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with - - - -	—
Lodging Houses.	No. on Register - - - -	—
	No. regularly inspected - - - -	—
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - -	—
Food.	No. of seizures as unfit for consumption -	—
Food and Drugs Act.	No. of samples taken for analysis - - -	—
	No. of samples certified genuine - - -	—
	No. of samples certified adulterated - -	—
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	No. of cases of removal on notice - - -	9
Accumulation of Offensive Refuse.	No. of removals - - - -	13
Legal proceedings	No. taken - - - -	—
	No. of convictions obtained - - - -	—
	No. of cases withdrawn or dismissed - -	—
Clerical Work.	No. of official letters written - - - -	283
	No. of notices served - - - -	111
	No. of notices complied with - - - -	102
	No. of notices outstanding - - - -	9

Remarks :

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders have been enforced resulting in the building of 2 new Cowsheds and the reconstruction of 4 others.

The Sanitary Arrangements at various Schools have been altered and rendered satisfactory.

Samples of water, from 32 wells at Offenham, were submitted for analysis and 11 were condemned. The Parish Council are now dealing with the question of a new supply.

(Signed) E. HOLLOWAY, (Cert. S.I. Exam. Brd., London).

22nd January, 1910.

Sanitary Surveyor and Inspector.

To the Pershore Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report, which refers to the year 1909. The "Tables" required by the Local Government Board being unchanged, the Report is framed on the same lines as in former years.

Copies of the Report will, as usual, be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Statistical Data.

The following Tables I, III, IV, and V, are given as required by the Local Government Board.

Table II. is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Pershore Rural District.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the end of 1909.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899.	13,086	314	23.9	34	108	209	15.9				209	15.9
1900.	13,086	324	24.7	32	98	237	18.1				237	18.1
1901.	12,813	315	24.6	25	79	161	12.5				161	12.5
1902.	12,813	323	25.2	22	68	182	14.2		8		190	14.8
1903.	12,813	309	24.1	20	61	158	12.1	18	1		168	13.1
1904.	12,813	286	22.3	27	94	177	13.8	17	2		180	14.0
1905.	12,813	286	22.3	27	94	194	15.1	21	2		197	15.3
1906.	12,810	319	24.8	26	81	183	14.2	15	—		192	14.9
1907.	12,810	280	21.8	27	96	170	13.2	15	2		171	13.3
1908.	12,800	303	23.6	30	99	197	15.3	18	—	10	207	16.1
Averages for years 1899-1908.	12,865	305	23.7	27	87	186	14.4	17	1	7	185	14.8
1909.	12,700	293	23.0	24	81	213	16.7	28	1	9	221	17.4

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term “Non-residents” is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there, and by the term “Residents” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1909.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	6		1	4		1		
Erysipelas	1							
Scarlet Fever ..	75		17	50	7	1		71
Typhus Fever ..								
Enteric Fever ..	2				2			
Relapsing Fever ..								
Continued Fever ..								
Puerperal Fever ..								
Plague								
Totals ..	84		18	54	9	2		71

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1909.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up-wards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet Fever							
Whooping-cough							
Diphtheria and membranous croup							
Croup							
Fever { Typhus							
{ Enteric							
{ Other continued							
Epidemic Influenza	9				1	2	6
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa							
Enteritis	5	2	1				2
Puerperal fever							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases							
Phthisis	20				6	14	
Other tubercular diseases	1	1					
Cancer, malignant disease	14					7	7
Bronchitis	21	4	1			3	13
Pneumonia	6		2			2	2
Pleurisy	1					1	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	5		2			1	2
Alcoholism							
Cirrhosis of liver }							
Venereal diseases							
Premature birth	3	3					
Diseases and accidents of parturition							
Heart diseases	34				1	4	29
Accidents	2			1			1
Suicides							
Senile decay	32						32
.....							
.....							
.....							
All other causes	68	14	7	2	1	19	25
All causes	221	24	13	3	9	53	119

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified..	4	1	2	2	9	4	3		1	1	1	1	1		1		22
	Uncertified	2																2
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox ...																	
	Chicken Pox ..																	
	Measles ..																	
	Scarlet Fever ..																	
	Diphtheria: including Membranous Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Whooping Cough																	
	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis							1										1
Wasting Diseases.	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth	3				3												3
	Congenital defects																	
Tuberculous Diseases.	Injury at Birth..																	
	Want of Breast Milk, Starvation																	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus		1	2	2	5	3											8
Other Causes	Tuberculous Meningitis											1				1		2
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
Other Causes	Erysipelas ..																	
	Syphilis ..																	
	Rickets ..																	
Other Causes	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions ..							1	1	1								2
	Bronchitis ..							1	1		1		1	1				5
Other Causes	Laryngitis ..																	
	Pneumonia ..																	
	Suffocation, overlying	1				1												1
Other Causes	Other Causes ..	2				2												2
		6	1	2	2	11	4	3		1	1	1	1	1		1		24

Table I shows that 293 births were registered in 1909, and that the birth rate amounted to 23·0 per 1,000 of the population ; as compared with an average rate during the 10 years 1899-1908 of 23·7.

I am glad to find that the "Birth rate" (although low) is apparently not decreasing, as is so generally the case.

The corresponding rate of England and Wales amounted to 25·6 per 1,000 of the population, a rate which is 0·9 per 1,000 below that in 1908, and lower than the rate of any other year on record ; compared with the average in the 10 years 1899-1908, this birth rate in 1909 showed a decrease of 2·2 per 1,000.

Table I. shows that the total number of deaths registered in 1909 was 213, and that the death rate upon this basis amounted to 16·7. On the other hand the "net death rate," arrived at by excluding "deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District," and including "deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District" who belonged to it, equalled 17·4. On reference to Table IV. it will be seen that of the 221 deaths which caused this death rate, 9 were caused by influenza, 20 by phthisis, 14 by cancer, 34 by heart diseases, and 32 by senile decay.

It is gratifying to note that there was no death in your district during 1909 from the so-called "zymotic diseases."

Last year (Table I) there were 9 deaths of "residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District" who belonged to Evesham, viz. Powick Asylum 5, Barnsley Hall Asylum 1, Worcester Infirmary 3.

The death rate in England and Wales in 1909 was 14·5 per 1,000, which is 0·2 per 1,000 below the rate in 1908, and lower than the rate in any other year on record ; compared with the average rate in the 10 years 1899-1908 the death rate in 1909 showed a decrease of 1·6 per 1,000.

The "infantile mortality" of 1909 equalled the low rate of 81 per 1,000 births registered. Details of the deaths in children under 1 year are given in Table V.

Extent, Distribution and Cause of Infectious Diseases.

Small Pox.

No case occurred in 1909.

Measles.

Measles is advisedly not a "notifiable" disease. So far as I am aware, it was not prevalent in any part of the District except at Throckmorton, where the school had to be closed in July for 4 weeks. (See Table X.)

Scarlet Fever.

Table VI. shows the monthly incidence of Scarlet Fever.

TABLE VI.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Birlingham	Jan. (1), June (3), Sept. (2), Nov. (7), Dec. (3),	16	
Bricklehampton	Dec. (5),	5	
Crophorne	Sept. (1),	1	
Charlton	Sept. (1), Oct. (1),	2	
Eckington	Mar. (2), May (1), June (2), July (5), Aug. (2), Sept (4), Oct. (5), Nov. (1),	22	
Norton	Jan. (2), Feb. (2), Sept. (2), Oct. (1),	7	
Pirton Siding	Sept. (1), Dec. (6),	7	
Pershore	April (1), Sept. (2), Oct. (4), Dec. (2),	9	
Red Hill	Dec. (1),	1	
Whittington	Feb. (1), April (1), June (1), Oct. (1), Nov. (1),	5	
	Jan. (3), Feb. (3), Mar. (2), Apr. (2), May (1), June (6), July (5), Aug. (2), Sept (13), Oct. (12), Nov. (9), Dec. (17),	75	None.

Seventy-one of these patients were removed to the Sanatorium, and the other usual precautionary measures with regard to disinfection were adopted.

If you will turn to Table III. you will see that 67 of the 75 cases occurred in children under 15 years of age.

Table VI. shews that of the 75 cases notified during the year, 22 occurred at Eckington, and 16 at Birlingham ; villages, which as you know, are adjacent to each other.

Nineteen cases also occurred at Eckington in 1908 ; this outbreak was discussed at considerable length in my Annual Report for that year, when I expressed the opinion that "mild cases—so mild in fact as to escape recognition—tended to spread the disease." I added that "Scarlet Fever has become such a mild disease during recent years that its eradication from a district in which it has obtained a footing is frequently a matter of the greatest difficulty."

I am still of that opinion, and that the disease was spread by personal infection, as there was no evidence whatever that milk in any way acted as a channel of distribution. In my long experience I have never known an instance in which Scarlatina, even of mild type, has clung so tenaciously to any locality as it has to Eckington.

In my last Annual Report I discussed the question of "return cases" of Scarlet Fever, *i.e.*: cases which occur in a locality after the discharge of a patient from the Isolation Hospital, and consequently it seems unnecessary for me to repeat what I then said. Last year 5 mild cases occurred in families residing in different parts of the district soon after patients returned home from the Hospital; in 2 of them, intervals of one month elapsed (and it should not be forgotten that the "incubation" period of Scarlet Fever is generally 4 days), in 1, there was an interval of a fortnight, and in 2, only intervals of four or five days.

In the instances where intervals of a month, and a fortnight ensued, I am inclined to think that the secondary cases may have arisen in consequence of the development of slight ear or nose discharges after the patient left the hospital, sequelæ which in the best regulated hospitals may, and not uncommonly do, occur.

The cases which broke out four or five days after the patients came home, were probably due to an infectious state of the patients' throats, and I should explain that as yet Bacteriological tests do not assist, as they do with cases of diphtheria; it is impossible for any medical man, however eminent, to state definitely *exactly* when a person who has had Scarlet Fever, is absolutely free from infection.

In order to take precautions against "return cases" I advised that the hospital wards should be disinfected as opportunity arose, and I am informed this was carried out at least four times during the year.

If however you will accept my advice and purchase an efficient "Formalin Sprayer" (see paragraph on disinfection) disinfection of the wards can more readily and easily be carried out, than at present.

The outbreak at Birlingham was imported, probably from Eckington, the disease was spread through the children meeting at school. Here again "mild cases" came into play.

None of the other outbreaks need comment. I need not remind you that local insanitary conditions do not disseminate Scarlet Fever.

Diphtheria.

Table VII. shows the monthly incidence of Diphtheria.

TABLE VII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Charlton	May (1),	1	
Fladbury	Feb. (1), Aug. (1),	2	
Lower Moor	Dec. (1),	1	
Upper Moor	Mar. (1),	1	
Stoulton	June (1),	1	
	Feb. (1), Mar. (1), May (1), June (1), Aug. (1), Dec. (1),	6	None.

The cases of Diphtheria were sporadic and few, and as they have been individually reported at your monthly meetings, need no comment.

All the persons attacked had to be treated at home, as there is no accommodation for such patients at the hospital. In my last Annual Report I said "The disease is so infectious that effective isolation is of prime importance, so I am glad that you have decided to build a Diphtheria block at your Isolation Hospital, as hitherto it has not been possible to remove patients who have this disease to that Institution."

In my Quarterly Report for December last, I gave especial prominence to a case of diphtheria at Lower Moor, and said "On December 30th I received notice of a case of diphtheria at Lower Moor, and on enquiry the following day, I found that a child, aged 6 years, sickened with the disease on December 25th, but was not seen by a doctor until 3 days afterwards.

"This child attended Wyre school up to December 23rd, and although the precise channel of infection is not clearly traceable, I am convinced that the illness was due to personal infection, as is so commonly the case.

"The father is a labourer, residing in a small cottage, and as you have not yet built the contemplated Diphtheria Ward at your hospital, the patient was necessarily kept at home, although efficient isolation was impracticable, in spite of the efforts of the parents to that end. I venture, therefore, to again advise that you at once proceed with the erection of the Diphtheria Ward which you decided in 1907 to build.

“ As the child attacked by diphtheria was at one time seriously ill, “ a trained nurse was engaged to attend upon her, and the cost en- “ tailed will, I am informed, be privately defrayed for one week. As, “ however, sect. 67 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1907, “ which enables “ the local Authority (to) provide nurses for atten- “ dance on patients suffering from any infectious disease in their “ District, who, owing to want of accommodation at the hospital, can- “ not be removed to the hospital,” is now in force in your District, I “ suggest that this is an instance in which you should utilise these “ powers.”

You at once utilized your powers and provided a nurse ; but, with regard to my recommendation as to building a diphtheria ward you passed the following resolution :

“ Upon the recommendation of the Hospital Committee it was “ resolved that no building for the isolation of Diphtheria cases be “ erected at present, but that when such cases cannot be isolated at “ the patient’s home, they be sent to the Worcester Isolation Hospital.”

Typhoid Fever.

Table VIII shows the monthly incidence of Typhoid Fever.

TABLE VIII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Broughton Hackett Persnore	Feb. (1),	1	
	Aug. (1),	1	
	Feb. (1), Aug. (1),	2	

The Broughton Hackett case was probably contracted at Worcester, and the precise origin of the Persnore case is somewhat uncertain.

Consumption (Phthisis).

Table IX gives the number of deaths and death rates per 10,000 of the population which occurred in your District during the years 1900-09.

TABLE IX.

	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
No. of Deaths	16	17	11	10	17	22	13	13	17	20
District Death rate*	12·0	13·0	8·0	7·0	13·0	17·0	10·1	10·1	13·0	15·0
County Death rate*	8·5	7·9	8·4	7·5	7·7	8·0	7·8	7·8	8·1	Not known

District average for 10 years 11·8. County average for 9 years 7·9.

* Per 10,000 of the population.

I submitted for your consideration in my last Annual Report a memorandum on this disease, and more especially in connection with the "Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations" issued by the Local Government Board. In that memorandum I alluded specially to the fact that the disease was infectious and preventable. I then compared (p. 71) the death rates of the disease in your District with those of the Borough of Evesham and Evesham and Feckenham Rural Districts during the years 1899-08, and with the death rates due to Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever, collectively during the same period. In this way I showed that during that time the Phthisis death rate in your District was higher than in either of the others referred to and caused 353 deaths, as compared with 64 attributed to Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever. On reference to Table IX it will be seen that the average Consumption death rate for the past ten years in your District is 11.8, as compared with 7.9 in the Administrative County.

In a country District such as yours the high mortality from Consumption is a matter of grave concern.

I give as Appendix B. a copy of letter addressed by the Local Government Board to the Dorking District Council, which urges Districts to take action, and I ask you to consider this in conjunction with the memorandum given at pages 68-76 of my Annual Report for 1908.

Your Inspector *offered* to disinfect the houses where 20 deaths occurred, but only succeeded in doing so in 14 instances.

Four cases of consumption were notified under the "Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908," and your Sanitary Inspector distributed the "leaflets" I prepared and which you approved. He also explained them and gave advice upon them.

Isolation Hospital.

Seventy-one of the 75 cases of Scarlet Fever were treated at your Hospital during the year. This shows that the Institution is popular. I explained the association between "return cases" of that disease, and isolation hospitals, and regret that at your hospital it is impracticable in due course to transfer the acute cases to a convalescent ward.

As you have an excellent site, I desire to again advise you to proceed with the erection of a diphtheria block, as I hold that a ward for that disease is of even more importance than one for scarlet fever, although means for the isolation of both disorders are essential.

My remarks in the paragraph on Diphtheria show you that the instances of that disease were few: but even so, a serious outbreak

may occur at any time ; and it should be remembered that diphtheria is a much more fatal disease than scarlet fever.

Disinfection.

Once more I wish to record my opinion the erection of a "Steam Disinfector" at the Hospital is a necessary adjunct for effective prevention of disease.

In order to save cost in the publication of the four Annual Reports comprised in this pamphlet, I give as an "Appendix" (C) some general remarks on "Disinfection" which are applicable to each District, and I ask you to consider these, in order that the methods of disinfection carried out in your district may be improved upon, and brought up to date.

Schools.

The following schools were closed on account of outbreaks of disease.

TABLE X.

Schools.	Date.	Period.	Cause.
Wyre C.E.	14th January	1 week 3 days	Impetigo
Drakes Broughton	25th January	2 weeks	Influenza
Pirton C.E.	7th June	2 weeks	Chickenpox
Throckmorton C.E.	5th July	4 weeks	Measles
Eckington C.E.	13th July (inclusive)	2 days	Disinfection on account of Scarlet Fever
Eckington C.E.	4th October	3 weeks	Scarlet Fever
Upton Snodsbury C.E.	12th October (inclusive)	4 weeks 4 days	Whooping cough
" " "	17th November	1 week 3 days	Whooping cough
Grafton Flyford C.E.	6th December	2 weeks 4 days	Whooping cough
Strensham C.E.	13th December	1 week 4 days	Disinfection after Scarlet fever

As the Local Government Board requires reports on the sanitary state of the Schools your Inspector made a survey of each of them, and this was published in my last report. He now reports improvements at the following Schools, viz :

At Bishampton.

Urinal cemented in the bottom, and connected to the drain instead of into the ashpit.

At Birlingham.

Nothing done beyond opening the drains which take the liquid out of ashpit. No Managers appointed yet.

At Bredicot.

These closets were cleaned at once. Two new pail closets have been erected for the boys, and a new urinal. The girls' was quite clean on inspection.

At Bricklehampton.

Ashpit has been filled up 5ft. in depth, made into shallow ashpit, and roofed over. A great improvement.

At Charlton.

Ashpits were cleaned out and the stones over pits raised above the ground to keep out surface water.

At Defford.

Urinal kept much cleaner. Satisfactory.

At Fladbury.

Urinal and drain altered, rain water from roof made to flush the urinal. Satisfactory.

At Peopleton.

The urinal connected into drain. Satisfactory now.

At Pinvin.

Boxes removed and made into shallow ashpits. Much better now.

At Stoulton.

These are now converted into pail closets. Satisfactory so far.

At Strensham.

Closets altered to shallow ashpits. Satisfactory.

At Wyre Piddle.

Urinal much cleaner. Satisfactory.

At Great and Little Comberton, Cropthorne, Eckington, Elmley Castle, Flyford Flavel, Grafton Flyford, Pershore, Drakes Broughton, Norton, Pirton, Spetchley, Upton Snodsbury, and Whittington, the conditions are satisfactory.

House Accommodation.

During the year 19 houses have been erected, 10 have been made fit for habitation, and 2 have been closed as unfit for habitation. One house at Churchill is so dangerous as to be unfit for habitation; consequently I interviewed the Owner's Agent who at once said that he would either repair or close it. Although it is in a bad state, I trust the former course may be practicable.

The "Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909," came into force on December 3rd last, and imposes special obligations upon you and your officials. Consequently I would ask you to consider Appendix A. of this Report, as it gives a Summary I have prepared of the Sanitary provisions of the Act. I wish particularly to call your attention to s. 17, which states that "it *shall* be the duty of every local authority "to cause to be made from time to time inspection of their District "with a view to ascertain whether any dwelling-house therein is in a "state so dangerous, or *injurious to health*, as to be unfit for habitation, "and for that purpose it shall be the duty of the Local Authority to "comply with such regulations and to keep such records as may be "prescribed by the Board."

I have good reason for thinking that the Local Government Board are considering the "records" which Sanitary Officials will have to keep.

I trust therefore you will direct your Inspector to search for, and if found, report to you all dwellings in the District which contravene this far-reaching Act.

Another section of the Act to which I wish to call your attention is No. 14, which provides that in contracts for letting houses where the rent does not exceed £16 there is an implied condition that the house was at the commencement of the holding in all respects reasonably fit for habitation. S. 15 establishes a new principle in regard to contracts for letting houses under s. 14, as it is designed to secure that the houses shall, during the holding, be kept by the Landlord in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.

Sewerage and Water Supply.

No sewerage schemes have been carried out during the year. The defective drainage of Pershore and Pinvin are still in abeyance, until some decision is come to with regard to the Water Supply of the District. As the County Council Enquiry was held last October, their Committee's report on the question will be issued very shortly, after which I hope the Sewerage and Water Schemes, which have for so long been under consideration, will be proceeded with.

I think it unnecessary to refer now to the exhaustive report (dated August, 1909) which the County Analyst and I made on the Water supply of the 17 parishes in your District, as each member of the Council, the respective Parish Councils, and many other persons, including the County Council and the Local Government Board, received copies of it.

Scavenging.

The Town of Pershore is the only part of the district where public scavenging is carried out by your men, under the direction of a

Parochial Committee and your Sanitary Inspector. The latter informs me that 403 ashpits and 204 portable receptacles have been cleansed during the year, to effect which 737 loads of ashes and excrement have been carted away.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

I may remind you that I discussed the subject of Milk Supplies at considerable length in my Annual Report for 1907, and alluded to legislation that seemed then to be imminent.

The "Milk Bill" prepared by the President of the Local Government Board has not yet been considered by Parliament, and it scarcely seems probable that it will be this Session.

At the present time there are 30 Dairymen, and Purveyors of Milk, in the District, whose premises have been inspected from time to time.

Four Dairymen have been dealt with for contravention of the Bye-laws. The construction of many cowsheds however is not such as to prevent the flanks and udders of the cows from being constantly covered with filth. I alluded last year to a "Design of a Cowshed" which I prepared as the result of experience gained in officially inspecting cowsheds for many years, and of keeping milking cows myself.

Since the "Design" was issued several sheds in and adjacent to the County, have either been built or remodelled on my plan, and those who have tried it,—and one is a large Dairyman who sends milk to London,—tell me that it is quite satisfactory, and enables them to keep their cows cleaner and healthier than formerly.

Slaughter-houses.

There are 14 "registered" Slaughter-houses in the District, 3 have been dealt with during the year under the Bye-laws. An important regulation to insist upon, is that which requires the walls to be *impervious*.

Where this is done, white-washing is not needed as frequently as when the walls are absorbent, and impervious walls are easily and quickly washed down.

I have urged your Inspector to give special attention to the Slaughter-house Bye-laws, and of course to enforce them as you have directed.

Common Lodging-houses.

There are only 2 Common Lodging-houses in the District, and these, which are in the town of Pershore, have been kept fairly satisfactorily during the year.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 54 "Workshops" in the District, 36 of which are "bakehouses."

The owners of 8 of the latter were required to carry out lime-washing, and the others did so voluntarily.

Hop Pickers.

Your New Bye-laws are in force, and have enabled you to require that two extra fire places and two new closets should be built at the Fladbury Hop-sheds.

The ventilation and lighting of these sheds even now, are not what they ought to be; but the Hop-grower who controls these sheds tells me he will see that improved lighting and ventilation are made before they are again used. The question of how "Peapickers" can be housed has been further considered during the year; but no practical solution of the problem has yet been arrived at.

Undoubtedly the whole subject bristles with difficulties.

A Conference of Local Authorities, Pea-growers and Pea-buyers, was held at the Shirehall, Worcester, on 22nd November, 1909, when the following "resolutions" were declared to be passed:

1. "That farmers and growers of peas be urged to engage their pickers beforehand, for the whole period of the picking, and only to employ those so engaged."
2. "That in the opinion of this Conference the employer of the labour should be held responsible for the proper accommodation of those he employs."

The Evesham Rural District Council have asked the "Salvation Army" to establish a "Canteen" in their District during the coming pea-season; and from the statement made at the Worcester Conference by a "Salvation Army Captain" there is a probability of the request being acceded to.

I append the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,
County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,
February, 1910.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year
ending 31st December, 1909.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health	No. of cases enquired into - - - -	83
	No. of houses disinfected and cleansed - -	78
	No. of patients removed to Hospital - -	72
	Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed - - - - -	3
	Cases of illegal exposure reported - -	—
Houses	No. erected (if information obtainable) -	19
	No. made fit for habitation - - - -	10
	No. closed as unfit for habitation - - -	2
	No. cleansed and lime-washed - - - -	5
Overcrowding House-drains.	No. of cases abated - - - - -	6
	No. laid or re-laid - - - - -	4
	No. cleansed, trapped and ventilated - -	13
	No. of defective waste-pipes rectified - -	3
	No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified - - - - -	4
	No. of dumb wells rectified - - - - -	7
Water Closets.	No. of additional W. C.'s provided - -	2
	No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns - - - - -	—
Privies and Ash-pits.	No. of additional privies and ashpits provided	14
	No. converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets - -	—
	No. converted to pail-closets - - - -	5
	No. repaired - - - - -	20
Dust Receptacles (portable).	No. of new dust receptacles provided - -	3
Scavenging	Total No. of houses from which refuse removable	—
	Total No. of privies and ashpits cleansed -	407
	Total No. of portable receptacles cleansed -	204
	Total No. of loads of ashes and excrement removed - - - - -	737
	Total No. of loads of ashes and refuse removed	—
Smoke Nuisances.	No. under observation - - - - -	—
	No. abated - - - - -	—
Offensive Trades.	No. under observation - - - - -	—
	No. improperly conducted - - - - -	—
Water Supply.	No. of wells sunk - - - - -	8
	No. of wells cleansed and repaired - -	4
	No. of wells closed as polluted - - -	—
	No. of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) - - - - -	—
Slaughter Houses.	No. registered or licensed - - - - -	15
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	15
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	3

Factories and Workshops.	No. under inspection - - - - -	54
	No. certified for lime-washing by Inspector -	8
	No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as Nuisances - - - - -	1
	No. employing "young persons," &c., reported to Medical Officer of Health - - -	—
Shop Hours Act.	No. of shops under supervision - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Act dealt with -	—
Dairies and Cowsheds.	No. of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision -	39
	No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye-laws dealt with - - - - -	4
	No. of infected milk supplies reported by Inspector - - - - -	—
Canal Boats.	No. of boats on Register - - - - -	—
	No. of boats registered during year - -	—
	No. of certificates renewed - - - - -	—
	No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) - - - - -	1
	No. of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with - - - - -	—
Lodging Houses.	No. on Register - - - - -	2
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	2
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	2
Food.	No. of seizures as unfit for consumption -	—
Food and Drugs Act.	No. of samples taken for analysis - - -	—
	No. of samples certified genuine - - -	—
	No. of samples certified adulterated - -	—
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	No. of cases of removal on notice - - -	1
Accumulation of Offensive Refuse.	No. of removals - - - - -	11
Legal proceedings	No. taken - - - - -	—
	No. of convictions obtained - - - - -	—
	No. of cases withdrawn or dismissed - -	—
Clerical Work.	No. of official letters written - - - -	326
	No. of notices served - - - - -	65
	No. of notices complied with - - - - -	60
	No. of notices outstanding - - - - -	5

Remarks :

Part of the sewer at Moor was relaid with socket pipes.

(Signed) F. W. MOULSON,

11th March, 1910.

Sanitary Inspector.

To the Feckenham Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report, which refers to the year 1909. It embodies the Tables issued by the Local Government Board, and is framed in the usual way.

Copies of the Report will, as usual, be forwarded to the Local Government Board, Secretary of State, and the County Council.

Statistical Data.

The following Tables I, III, IV, and V, are given as required by the Local Government Board.

Table II. is omitted, as it is not applicable to the Feckenham Rural District.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	Population estimated to the end of 1909.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS.	Deaths of Non- Residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	DEATHS AT ALL AGES. NET.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*				Number.	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899.	5,744	153	26·6	17	111	67	11·6			5	95	16·5
1900.	5,744	129	22·4	16	124	90	15·6			5	74	13·3
1901.	5,532	131	24·4	14	106	69	12·4			4	60	10·8
1902.	5,532	107	19·3	12	102	56	10·1			7	70	12·6
1903.	5,532	108	19·5	9	83	63	11·3			10	79	13·0
1904.	5,532	141	25·4	13	92	62	11·2			6	87	15·7
1905.	5,532	126	22·7	15	119	81	14·6			9	77	13·9
1906.	5,532	136	24·5	11	80	68	12·2			10	64	11·6
1907.	5,500	145	26·3	10	68	54	9·8			5	77	14·0
1908.	5,500	123	22·3	7	56	72	13·0					
Averages for years 1899-1908.	5,568	129	23·3	12	94	68	12·1	—	—	6	68	12·1
1909.	5,450	108	19·8	14	130	75	13·7	—	—	6	81	14·8

* Rates calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term “Non-residents” is meant persons brought into the district on account of illness, and dying there, and by the term “Residents” is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of illness, and have died elsewhere.

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1909.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							Total Cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Cholera								
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	3		1		1	1		
Erysipelas	2							
Scarlet Fever ..	39		6	25	5	3		39
Typhus Fever ..								
Enteric Fever ..								
Relapsing Fever ..								
Continued Fever ..								
Puerperal Fever ..								
Plague								
Totals ..	44		7	25	6	4		39

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1909.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and up- wards.
Small-pox							
Measles							
Scarlet Fever ..							
Whooping-cough ..	3	3					
Diphtheria and mem- branous croup ..	1				1		
Croup							
Fever { Typhus ..							
{ Enteric ..							
{ Other continued							
Epidemic Influenza ..							
Cholera							
Plague							
Diarrhœa							
Enteritis	1	1					
Puerperal fever ..							
Erysipelas							
Other septic diseases ..							
Phthisis	8			1	2	4	1
Other tubercular di- seases	2			1		1	
Cancer, malignant di- sease	4					4	
Bronchitis	3	2					1
Pneumonia	2					2	
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs ..	3	1				1	1
Alcoholism	2					1	1
Cirrhosis of liver } ..							
Venereal diseases ..							
Premature birth ..	1	1					
Diseases and accidents of parturition ..							
Heart diseases ..	5		1			1	3
Accidents	1						1
Suicides							
Senile decay	20					2	18
.....							
.....							
.....							
All other causes ..	25	6	1	1	1	8	8
All causes ..	81	14	2	3	4	24	34

TABLE V.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES	Certified. Uncertified																	
Common Infectious Diseases.	Small Pox																	
	Chicken Pox																	
	Measles																	
	Scarlet Fever																	
	Diphtheria: including Membranous Croup																	
	Whooping Cough						1	1						1				3
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis							1										1
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth	1				1												1
	Congenital defects																	
Wasting Diseases.	Injury at Birth..																	
	Want of Breast Milk, Starvation																	
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	3				3	1										1	5
Tuberculous Diseases.	Tuberculous Meningitis																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis: Tabes Mesenterica																	
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	
	Erysipelas																	
	Syphilis																	
	Rickets																	
Other Causes.	Meningitis (not Tuberculous)																	
	Convulsions	1				1												1
	Bronchitis							1				1						2
	Laryngitis																	
	Pneumonia																	
	Suffocation, overlying																	
	Other Causes																1	1
		5				5	2	2	1			1		1			2	14

Table I shows that 108 births were registered in 1909, and that the birth rate amounted to 19·8 per 1,000 of the population ; as compared with an average rate during the 10 years 1899-1908 of 23·3.

The corresponding rate of England and Wales amounted to 25·6 per 1,000 of the population, a rate which is 0·9 per 1,000 below that in 1908, and lower than the rate of any other year on record ; compared with the average in the 10 years 1899-1908, this birth rate in 1909 showed a decrease of 2·2 per 1,000.

As I have frequently reported, this decline in the Birth rate, both National and Local, is much to be deplored.

The County Council having adopted the "Notification of Births Act," all births are now notified to me, as County Medical Officer, within 36 hours of their occurrence. *One* of the advantages of this, is mentioned in subsequent remarks on "Infantile Mortality."

Table I. shows that the total number of deaths registered in the District in 1909 was 75, and that the death rate upon this basis amounted to 13·7. On the other hand the "net death rate," arrived at by including "deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District" who belonged to it, equalled 14·8 ; this rate is slightly higher than that of England and Wales, (14·5).

Last year (Table I) there were 6 deaths of "residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District" who belonged to the District, viz. Barnsley Hall Asylum 1, Alcester Workhouse 2, Smallwood Hospital 2, and Birmingham General Hospital 1.

The death rate in England and Wales in 1909 was 14·5 per 1,000, which is 0·2 per 1,000 below the rate in 1908, and lower than the rate in any other year on record ; compared with the average rate in the 10 years 1899-1908 the death rate in 1909 showed a decrease of 1·6 per 1,000.

The "infantile mortality" of 1909 was 130 per 1,000 births registered ; as compared with 94 the average annual rate for the years 1900-1909. It is obvious that the infantile mortality was unusually high last year.

Table V shows you that of the 14 deaths of infants under 1 year, 3 were caused by Whooping Cough, 2 by Bronchitis, 1 by Convulsions, and 5 by "Wasting Disease."

Thus you will gather that lung affections were fatal to babies. Five deaths occurred in infants under 1 week of age, viz.: 3 from wasting disease, 1 from premature birth, and 1 from convulsions. I propose watching such deaths for the future in order to see how far, if at all, they may be associated with employment of the mothers in factories.

As the Notification of Births Act is now in force in the County, I am enabled to send leaflets as to baby rearing, to all mothers attended by midwives, but of course do not do so to those attended by doctors.

Table VI shows that the local zymotic death rates, as compared with those of England and Wales, are favourable.

TABLE VI.
Rates per 1,000 of population.

	All causes.	Principal Epidemic Diseases.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhœa.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
Feckenham Rural District	14·8	0·7	0·0	0·0	0·0	0·1	0·5	0·0	0·0	130
England and Wales	14·5	1·12	0·0	0·35	0·09	0·14	0·20	0·06	0·28	109

Measles.

Although no death was caused by measles, it was epidemic at Astwood Bank and Feckenham, and necessitated the closure of the respective Schools. The dates of closure are given in my paragraph on "Schools."

Whooping Cough.

This disease caused 3 deaths, and was so prevalent at Astwood Bank, Cookhill, and Inkberrow, that I had to close the Elementary Schools. The dates of closure are given in the paragraph on Schools.

Scarlet Fever.

Table VII. shows the monthly incidence of Scarlet Fever.

TABLE VII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Astwood Bank	June (1), July (7), Aug. (2), Sept. (7), Oct. (9), Nov. (3), Dec. (5),	34	
Dagtail	July (1), Sept. (1),	2	
Ridgeway	Sept. (2), Oct. (1),	3	
	June (1), July (8), Aug. (2), Sept. (10), Oct. (10), Nov. (3), Dec. (5),	39	None.

Twenty of these Scarlet Fever cases were reported in the September quarter, and 18 in the December quarter, and all of them occurred in the neighbourhood of Astwood Bank. Table III shows that 31 were children under 15 years of age. I have no doubt that dissemination of the disease was due to personal infection through the congregation of children at school. If you will refer to the subsequent paragraph on "Schools" you will see that it was consequently necessary to close some schools. During closure disinfection of the schools was carried out.

The whole of the patients were isolated at the "Alcester Sanatorium," and household disinfection was carried out.

Diphtheria.

Table VIII. shows the monthly incidence of Diphtheria.

TABLE VIII.

Locality.	No. of cases in each month.	Total.	Dates of fatal cases.
Feckenham Inkberrow	June (1), Dec. (2),	1 2	
	June (1), Dec. (2),	3	

These patients were isolated at home, and call for no comment at the present time.

Consumption (Phthisis).

Table IX. shows the deaths registered, and death rates in your District during 1909, and compares them with corresponding ones of the County.

TABLE IX.

	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902
No. of Deaths	8	8	4	4	5	10	4	6
District Death rate*	14·0	14·0	7·0	7·0	6·0	17·0	7·0	10·0
County Death rate*	Not known	8·1	7·8	7·8	8·0	7·7	7·5	8·4

Total Deaths, 49. Average District annual death rate per 10,000, 8·2.
Average County annnal death rate per 10,000, 6·1.

* Per 10,000 of the population.

Forty-nine deaths were due to Consumption during the years 1902-1909, whereas the total number of deaths from the preventable diseases Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever, during the same period only amount to 3. This table also shows that the average annual death rate (0.82) is considerably higher than that of the County. I may remind you that in my last Annual Report (Appendix) I presented a Memorandum on the causation and prevention of this infectious disease; in it I described the obligations imposed upon poor-law officials by the "Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1908," issued by the Local Government Board, which oblige the notification of pauper cases, and also advised that an arrangement should, if possible, be made with the medical men practising in your District to voluntarily notify their cases for a fee of 2/6 for each notification.

In consequence of these arrangements, 2 cases were notified under the regulations, and 2 voluntarily. I am afraid, however, judging by the statistics given in Table IX that more cases than these occurred. Disinfection has been carried out in 8 instances.

You also authorised me to issue the leaflet of "General Directions to Consumptive Persons" given on p. 74 of my last report, in order that your inspector might hand—and at the same time explain—it to such people, and this has been done. I have no doubt however that the general public do not sufficiently realize that Consumption is infectious and preventable, and do not recognize the importance of "fresh-air," especially when working indoors.

The Local Government Board have recently explained, that Rural District Councils are empowered to contribute to open-air Sanatoria, in order that persons suffering from this disease may be cured; so in order that you may see what the Board's views are, I give as Appendix B a copy of a letter which they addressed to the Docking Rural District Council.

Surely if the provision of Isolation Hospitals is necessary to prevent the spread of Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Typhoid Fever, it is equally necessary with regard to consumption, a disorder which I have already shown is very much more fatal than the other diseases I have just mentioned.

I hope therefore that you may see your way to retain a bed for the use of persons in your District at the "Worcestershire Open-air Sanatorium," an excellent Institution which is doing such a good work, and is supported not only by Voluntary Contributions, but also by Local Authorities and Benefit Clubs.

Isolation Hospital.

For the number of patients from your District treated at the "Alcester Sanatorium" I refer you to Table III.

Disinfection.

As public opinion with regard to disinfection, and disinfectants, is often wrongly directed, I have prepared a Memorandum on these subjects which I give as Appendix C.

Schools.

The following schools were closed during the year.

Schools.	Date.	Period.	Cause.
Astwood Bank, Council	9th January	1 week (extended closure)	Measles
Astwood Bank, Council, Infants' Dept.	30th September	2 weeks 2 days	Scarlet Fever & Whooping Cough
Feckenham C. E., Infants' Dept.	4th October	2 weeks	Measles
Astwood Bank, Council	7th October	4 weeks 2 days	Scarlet Fever & Whooping Cough and for purposes of disinfection
Feckenham C.E.	7th October	4 weeks 2 days	Measles
Cookhill, Council, Mixed Dept.	23rd October	5 weeks	Whooping Cough
Feckenham C.E.	8th November	1 week	Repairs to school floors
Astwood Bank, Council, Infants' Dept.	10th November	2 weeks 3 days	Scarlet Fever & Whooping Cough
Inkberrow, Council	16th October	8 weeks	Whooping Cough
Inkberrow, Council, Infants' Dept.	15th December	1 week 2 days	Whooping Cough
Cookhill, Council, Infants' Dept.	27th November	2 weeks	Whooping Cough

Owing to outbreaks of zymotic diseases I closed no less than 10 schools during 1909. In such closures I, as School Medical Officer, am called upon to consider the matter in two ways, viz. : 1st, how far it is necessary to close for public health reasons, and 2nd, the question of closure from the educational point of view : i.e., the way in which the absence of children affects the Government "Grants"; for I regret to say that the Board of Education have abrogated the "Epidemic Grant" (and consequently make no grant allowances for children who are kept away from school by epidemic diseases), while they continue to make grant allowances when the Schools are closed.

During the past year I have by direction of the County Council prepared the "Third Edition" of my "Memorandum on Infectious Diseases, for the use of Worcestershire Schools," which is intended for the guidance of School Managers and Head Teachers in regard to outbreaks of disease in Schools.

I have almost re-written this pamphlet, and brought it up to date, and should any member of the Council care for a copy, shall be glad to supply him with one.

There are six Schools in your District, and the Local Government Board ask that Annual Reports should refer to their sanitary condition.

Your Sanitary Inspector made a special sanitary survey of the schools in 1908, and his report is given in my report for that year.

He states this year "it was not found necessary for any alteration to be made to the closet accommodation or the water supply. The sewage from Crabb's Cross Schools is now received into a tank instead of a ditch, and irrigated over land."

"The middens and urinals at Abbott's Morton C. E. Schools were thoroughly repaired early last year. The water is still obtained from the well about 150 yards from the schools and stored in earthenware pails. The middens are cleansed much more often than they used to be."

Housing of the Working Classes.

Three houses only have been erected during the year, and 2 have been made fit for human habitation.

Your Inspector has made a house-to-house survey of Abbott's Morton and Feckenham during the year, the result of which was that a number of insanitary conditions (see his Report annexed) have been attended to. It was expected that a similar survey of other parts of the district would have been made, but this has not yet been accomplished owing to the work your Inspector had to do in connection with outbreaks of disease. It is however hoped that this important work will be recommenced almost immediately.

The "Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909," referred to in my last Annual Report, came into force on December 3rd last, and imposes serious obligations, not only upon you and your officers, but also upon house owners.

I have prepared a Memorandum of this Act given as Appendix A., and ask you to carefully consider it, especially s. 14, 15 and 17.

Sewerage.

Hunt End.

The County Council having made a representation to the Local Government Board (Public Health Act, 1875, s. 299) that you were "in default" with regard to the sewerage of Hunt End, you will remember, at the request of the Local Government Board, I made a "Special Report" to you on the sanitary state of the place on 4th September, 1909. Copies of that report were sent to the Local Government Board and the County Council.

The Board—as you know—wrote to the County Council on October 7th, 1909, enquiring "whether having regard to the financial depression, and diminution of population caused by the stoppage of the Hunt End works, the question of sewerage might not be deferred for the present." The County Council on December 13th agreed that you should have reasonable opportunity of submitting proposals for dealing with the nuisances, and in the meanwhile the "representation" has been deferred.

The Board have now asked that I should make another report of the sanitation of the District in order to show what has since been done, or what is contemplated: and I understand I am to do so, after a Special Committee has further considered the matter.

Scavenging.

Astwood Bank, Crabb's Cross and Hunt End are scavenged as usual, and house refuse is also removed from Feckenham.

Water Supply.

During the year 23 houses in Feckenham parish have been supplied with water-works water.

Your Water Inspector tells me that at the present time 265 houses in Astwood Bank, 113 Crabb's Cross and 10 at Hunt End parts of the parish are so supplied.

Seven wells have been condemned on analysis, and the owners have laid on water from the mains.

*Places over which the Council have control :**Slaughter-houses.*

There are 7 "registered" Slaughter-houses in the District, and these are regularly inspected and lime-washed. At 1 lime-washing is neglected, but I understand it will not be used much longer, as the occupier is about to give up the business. In one instance your Inspector called in a Veterinary Inspector (Mr. Gold) to examine a carcase which he considered to be "suspicious," and Mr. Gold subsequently advised that the owner should have "the benefit of the doubt."

Dairies and Cowsheds.

There are 21 Cowkeepers and Dairymen under supervision, and 47 visits have been paid to these during the year. It was necessary to order lime-washing in five instances, and to serve a notice on one occasion to cause the removal of a pig from a cow house.

Your Inspector reports "there is still ample room for improvements "in the housing and cleanliness of the cows and cowsheds."

I am quite satisfied that generally, cows and cowsheds are not as well kept as they ought to be; and should Mr. Burns' Milk Bill become law it will oblige Dairymen to carry on the milk trade in a more sanitary fashion than many of them do at present. It is unnecessary for me to say more now on this important subject, as you well know my views upon it.

Factories and Workshops.

There are 15 Factories and 46 Workshops in the District.

These have been duly visited: 4 of them were ordered to be lime-washed, and at 3, insanitary conditions were dealt with.

Bake-houses.

There are still 12 houses under supervision, to which 32 visits were made during the year. Lime-washing usually is well carried out, but in 4 cases it was necessary to order this to be done. The floors of 2 of them have been reconstructed.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1907.

The Local Government Board have now sanctioned the adoption of the following Sections, viz.: 15, 16, 22, 23, 25, 26, 30, 33 to 46, 48 to 60, and 62 to 68.

I append the Annual Report of your Sanitary Inspector.

Your obedient servant,

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,
County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,
March, 1910.

Inspector's Report of the Sanitary Work completed in the year
ending 31st December, 1909.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health	No. of cases enquired into - - - -	42
	No. of houses disinfected and cleansed - -	47
	No. of patients removed to Hospital - -	39
	Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed - - - - -	—
	Cases of illegal exposure reported - -	—
Houses	No. erected (if information obtainable) - -	3
	No. made fit for habitation - - - -	2
	No. closed as unfit for habitation - - -	1
	No. cleansed and lime-washed - - - -	36
Overcrowding	No. of cases abated - - - - -	3
House-drains.	No. laid or re-laid - - - - -	4
	No. cleansed, trapped and ventilated - -	12
	No. of defective waste-pipes rectified - -	3
	No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified - - - - -	24
	No. of dumb wells rectified - - - - -	1
Water Closets.	No. of additional W. C.'s provided - -	9
	No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with flush cisterns - - - - -	3
Privies and Ash-pits.	No. of additional privies and ashpits provided - -	—
	No. converted to W.C.'s or slop-closets - -	9
	No. converted to pail-closets - - - -	4
	No. repaired - - - - -	12
Dust Receptacles (portable).	No. of new dust receptacles provided - -	—
Scavenging	Total No. of houses from which refuse removable - -	—
	Total No. of privies and ashpits cleansed - -	—
	Total No. of portable receptacles cleansed - -	260
	Total No. of loads of ashes and excrement removed - - - - -	239
	Total No. of loads of ashes and refuse removed - -	332
Smoke Nuisances.	No. under observation - - - - -	—
	No. abated - - - - -	—
Offensive Trades.	No. under observation - - - - -	2
	No. improperly conducted - - - - -	1
Water Supply.	No. of wells sunk - - - - -	—
	No. of wells cleansed and repaired - -	6
	No. of wells closed as polluted - - -	7
	No. of houses supplied from waterworks (during year) - - - - -	23
	No. of samples of water sent for analysis - -	15
Slaughter Houses.	No. registered or licensed - - - - -	7
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	7
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	—

Factories and Workshops.	No. under inspection - - - - -	61
	No. certified for lime-washing by Inspector -	4
	No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as Nuisances - - - - -	3
	No. employing "young persons," &c., reported to Medical Officer of Health - - - - -	—
Shop Hours Act.	No. of shops under supervision - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Act dealt with - - - - -	—
Dairies and Cowsheds.	No. of persons engaged in milk trade now on Register and under supervision - - - - -	21
	No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders, and Bye-laws dealt with - - - - -	6
	No. of infected milk supplies reported by Inspector - - - - -	—
Canal Boats.	No. of boats on Register - - - - -	—
	No. of boats registered during year - - - - -	—
	No. of certificates renewed - - - - -	—
	No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) - - - - -	—
	No. of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with - - - - -	—
Lodging Houses.	No. on Register - - - - -	—
	No. regularly inspected - - - - -	—
	No. cleansed and repaired - - - - -	—
Food.	No. of seizures as unfit for consumption - - - - -	—
Food and Drugs Act.	No. of samples taken for analysis - - - - -	—
	No. of samples certified genuine - - - - -	—
	No. of samples certified adulterated - - - - -	—
Animals kept so as to be a Nuisance.	No. of cases of removal on notice - - - - -	—
Accumulation of Offensive Refuse.	No. of removals - - - - -	5
Legal proceedings	No. taken - - - - -	1
	No. of convictions obtained - - - - -	—
	No. of cases withdrawn or dismissed - - - - -	1
Clerical Work.	No. of official letters written - - - - -	272
	No. of notices served - - - - -	51
	No. of notices complied with - - - - -	48
	No. of notices outstanding - - - - -	3

Remarks :

In eleven instances, nuisances from defective spouting have been abated.

Four yards have been repaved, and eight defective roofs have been repaired.

(Signed) GEORGE DOLPHIN,

3rd February, 1910.

Sanitary Inspector.

APPENDIX A.

MEMORANDUM ON THE HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACT, 1909,

BY

THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER FOR WORCESTERSHIRE.

NOTE.—In this Memorandum

“The principal Act” means the “The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.”

“L. S. A.”	„	“Local Sanitary Authority.”
“R. D. C.”	„	“Rural District Council.”
“M. O. H.”	„	“District Medical Officer of Health.”
“C. M. O.”	„	“County Medical Officer.”

Object of Act. To amend the law relating to the Housing of the Working Classes and to provide for the making of Town Planning Schemes. In it the “Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890” is referred to as the “principal Act.”

Act not adoptive. S. 1. The Act is not adoptive, but compulsory in every Urban and Rural District, and came into force on 3rd December, 1909.

Compulsory acquisition of land. S. 2 (1) (2). Land can now be obtained compulsorily for the purposes of Part III (Working Classes Lodging Houses) of the “principal Act” by means of an “Order” of the L.G.B., whereas formerly it only could be taken by “Provisional Order.”

Compensation. In determining compulsory purchase of land, no additional allowance is made for compulsory purchase.

Acquisition of land by Agreement. S. 2 (3). By S. 2 (3) a L.S.A. may, with the approval of the L.G.B., acquire land by agreement for Part III (Working Classes Lodging Houses) of the “principal Act,” notwithstanding that the land is not immediately required for the purposes.

Loans.
S. 3.

Loans can be borrowed for 80 years (as hitherto) and the Public Works Loan Commissioners can now lend for that period, whereas formerly they could only lend for 50 years. The loan is to be made at the minimum rate allowed. The rate at the present time is $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Construction
of Streets.
S. 6.

By S. 6 a L.S.A. is empowered when providing "Lodging Houses for the Working Classes" to construct streets or roads, on condition that those streets or roads are dedicated to the public.

Donations of
land or money.
S. 8.

By S. 8 a L.S.A. can accept donations of land or money for the purposes of the Housing Acts.

L.G.B. can
enforce
exercise of
powers to (a)
R.D. Councils
S. 10.

S. 10 *so far as it concerns Rural Districts* empowers the L.G.B. *where a complaint is made to them*

- (a) By the County Council,
- (b) Parish Council or Parish Meeting,
- (c) Four inhabitant householders,

if the Authority *have failed to exercise* their powers under Part II (Unhealthy Dwelling Houses) or Part III (Working Classes Lodging Houses) to make an "Order" (after holding a Local Inquiry and being satisfied that the R.D.C. is in default) directing that Authority to carry out the requisite work within a limited time, and this Order may be enforced by Mandamus (S. 10) (6). Before deciding that the R.D.C. is in default under Part III (Working Classes Lodging Houses) the L.G.B. are required to take into consideration

- (i) the necessity for further accommodation,
- (ii) the probability that the accommodation will not be otherwise provided, and the other circumstances of the case,
- (iii) whether having regard to the liability which will be incurred by the rates, it is prudent to undertake the provision of such work (S. 10) (2).

It should be noted that this sub-section only applies to Part III of the *principal Act*.

County
Council may
do work.
S. 10 (3).

Where an "Order" made is not complied with, the L.G.B. may, with *the consent of the* County Council make an "Order" directing the County Council to carry out the work.

Complaints as
to (b)
Boroughs or
Urban
Districts.
(Urban
Circular, p. 3)

S. 10 *so far as it concerns Boroughs or Urban Districts* confers upon the L.G.B. power, where complaint is made to them:

- (i) as respects any County district by the County Council or four inhabitant householders,
- (ii) as respects a County Borough, by four inhabitant householders,

to make a similar Order to that for R.D. Councils.

The L.G.B. may also, with the consent of the County Council, make an Order directing them to carry out the work in "County Districts" (Boroughs and Urban Districts). The power does not apply to County Boroughs.

Obstructive
Buildings—
Reconstruc-
tion Schemes.
S. 11.

If the L.G.B. consider a R.D.C. have failed (*a*) to give effect to any order as respects an obstructive Building (see Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, S. 38) or to a reconstruction Scheme under Part II (Unhealthy Dwelling Houses) *or cause to be made the inspection of their district as required by the new Act* (See S. 17, referred to later) the L.G.B. may make an Order requiring the L.A. to do such work; and if necessary enforce that "Order" by Mandamus (S. 11) (2).

Urban Memo.
p. 4.

The L.G.B. have also the like power in Boroughs and Urban Districts, with regard to Part I (Unhealthy Areas) of the principal Act.

Power of C.C.
to act on
defaults of
R.D.C.'s
under Part III
S. 12.

A County Council can act upon a complaint made to them by
(*a*) the Parish Council or Parish Meeting of R.D.
(*b*) or by four inhabitant householders,
and proceed to hold a Local Inquiry.

If they are satisfied the R.D.C. have failed to exercise their powers under Part III (Working Classes Lodging Houses) of the principal Act; they may take the powers of the R.D.C., not merely as hitherto with respect to a Parish in the District, but to the whole District.

Powers of C.C.
to exercise
powers of
R.D.C. under
Part III of
principal Act.
S. 13.

S. 13 enables a County Council where they are of opinion that *for any reason* it is expedient that they should exercise, *as respects any Rural District*, any of the Powers of a L.A. under Part III (Working Classes Lodging Houses), after giving notice to that R.D.C., to apply to the L.G.B. for an Order conferring such powers upon them, and the L.G.B. may make such an Order. When the C.C. have executed Works under such Order, they may transfer them to that R.D.C. upon terms and conditions to be agreed upon.

This power is not applicable in Urban Districts.

Fitness for
Occupation.
Contracts by
Landlords.
S. 14.

S. 14 provides that in any contract made after 3rd December, 1909, for letting for habitation in a rural district a house, or part of a house, there is an implied condition that the house was at the commencement of the holding in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.

In *Rural Districts* this applies to houses where the rent does not exceed £16; but the condition is *not implied* where such house or part of a house is let for a term of not less than 3 years upon the terms that it be put by the lessee into a condition reasonably fit for occupation, and the lease is not determinable at the option of either party before the expiration of that term.

The above condition is implied in a *Borough or Urban District* with a population of 50,000 or upwards where the rent does not exceed £26.

Keeping
houses in
repair.
S. 15.

S. 15 establishes a new principle in regard to contracts for letting houses under S. 14. The enactment is designed to secure that the houses shall, during the holding, be kept by the landlord, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation. Thus it provides that S. 14 shall, as respect contracts, take effect as if the condition implied by it included an undertaking that the house shall be kept by the landlord, in all respects, fit for human habitation.

Duties of L.A.
as to above.
S. 15.

S. 15 (3) makes it the duty of the Council as the L.A. under Part II (Unhealthy Dwelling Houses) where it appears to them that the implied Undertaking is not complied with, to require the landlord to execute such work as the Council specify. The Landlord is enabled within 21 days after the receipt of such notice to close the house.

If the notice is not complied with, the Council may themselves do the work and recover the expenses from the Landlord. The Council have also the alternative of declaring the expenses incurred payable by annual instalments within a period not exceeding that of the interest of the landlord (including his "Successors in Title") nor in any case five years, with interest at the rate of £5 % until the whole amount is paid.

The Landlord has the right of Appeal to the L.G.B.

It will be advisable for the Council where practicable to resort to the provisions of this Section in preference to enforcing the powers conferred by S. 17 and 18 in regard to the closing and demolition of houses unfit for habitation.

Bye-laws as to
Lodging
Houses for
Working
Classes. S. 16.

By S. 16 the power of making bye-laws is extended. (See S. 44 as to revocation of bye-laws).

Closing and
demolition
Orders.
S. 17.
Inspection of
District.
S. 17.

The procedure as to these Orders is remodelled. The opening words of S. 17 (i) impose upon the L.A. the duty of causing to be made from time to time inspection of their district with a view to ascertain whether any dwelling house is in a state so dangerous, or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation—the further duty is imposed upon the L.A. and every officer of the *Local Authority to comply with such regulations and keep such records as may be prescribed by the Board*, and much importance is attached to it. The L.G.B. point out that there can be no doubt that in some districts such inspection has not in the past been adequately carried out.

This is a most important provision, as it *obliges* a L.A. to cause the houses in their district to be inspected; it *also obliges* them if on the representation of the M.O.H. or any other information any dwelling house appears to them to be unfit for habitation to make an Order prohibiting its use until rendered fit for habitation. Every Officer of a L.A. is also compelled "to comply with such regulations and keep such records as may be prescribed by the L.G.B."

At the time of writing these "regulations" have not been issued, but it is known that the L.G.B. have the matter under their consideration.

Under S. 17 (2) closing orders can now be made by the L.A. in lieu of a Court of Summary Jurisdiction; subject to appeal to the L.G.B. The New Act does not prescribe the procedure to be adopted, but leaves it to the discretion of the L.A.

On January 11th, 1910, the L.G.B. issued the "Forms of Notices" dealing with these provisions of the Act.

The time within which, when a closing order has become operative, an occupier can be required to cease to inhabit the house is (S. 17 (4)) increased from 7 to 14 days; and the L.A. may (on certain conditions) make any tenant a reasonable allowance on account of his expenses on removing.

Underground Bedrooms. S. 17 (7).	Special provisions come into operation on 1st July, 1910, with respect to underground rooms habitually used as sleeping places.
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Order for demolition. S. 18.	S. 18 (1) Proceedings with a view to an Order for demolition cannot be initiated until a closing order has been operative for 3 months, and before making a demolition Order the L.A. must give the Owner an opportunity of being heard on the matter. The L.A. can (Sub-S. 3) give the Owner an opportunity to render it fit for habitation.
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Improvement Schemes. S. 23.	S. 23 et seq. enlarges the powers of L.A.'s as to Improvement Schemes.
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Exemption of Lodging houses from Inhabited House Duty. S. 35.	S. 35 exempts any house occupied for the sole purpose of letting lodgings to persons of the working classes at a charge of not exceeding 6d. per night for each person from Assessment to Inhabited House Duty, <i>upon the production of a certificate from the M.O.H.</i> that the house is solely constructed and used to afford suitable accommodation for the lodgers, and that due provision is made for their sanitary requirements.
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Powers of Entry. S. 36. S. 36 gives increased powers of Entry for authorised Officials of the L.A. or L.G.B. for certain purposes.

Power of L.G.B. to obtain Report S. 37. S. 37 enables the L.G.B. to obtain from L.A.'s full particulars with regard to congested areas.

Back-to-back Houses. S. 43. S. 43 prohibits for the future the erection of any "back to back" houses intended to be used as working class dwellings, and declares that any such house commenced to be erected after 3rd December, 1909, is to be deemed unfit for habitation. This Section is to take effect notwithstanding anything in any Local Act or byelaw.

It contains a saving Clause in respect of (i) a house containing several tenements placed back-to-back if the M.O.H. certified that the rooms of the several tenements are effectively ventilated.

Revocation of unreasonable bye-laws. S. 44. By S. 44 the L.G.B. can, if satisfied that the erection of working-class dwellings is unreasonably impeded by bye-laws with respect to new streets or buildings, require the L.A. to make new ones.

Definition of "Dwelling house" and "Owner." S. 49 (1). By S. 49 (i) a house will not cease to be a dwelling house for purposes of Part II (Unhealthy Dwelling Houses) because it has ceased to be inhabited.

Again, the term "owner" is enlarged by S. 49 (2) to include all lessees or mortgagees required to be dealt with under Part I of *the new Act* (Housing of the Working Classes).

Definition of "Cottage." S. 50. S. 50 of the principal Act stated that the expression "Cottage" for Part III (Working Classes Lodging Houses) included a garden of not more than half an acre. S. 50 of the new Act substitutes an acre for half an acre.

Town Planning. Part II of the new Act gives most important powers as to "Town Planning." Schemes may embrace not only any land which is already in course of development, but also land which "appears likely to be used for building purposes." Such schemes have to be approved by the L.G.B. and can extend to areas *outside* that of the L.A. proposing to carry them out.

S. 61 confers upon the L.G.B. power to order the L.A. to carry out such Schemes.

County
Medical
Officers.
S. 68.
Part III.

S. 68 (1) obliges a County Council to appoint a County Medical Officer. His duties will be such as will be prescribed by the L.G.B. and such other duties as the County Council may assign. (Sub-sect. 2).

Sub-section 4 confers on a C.M.O. for the purposes of his duties, the same powers of entry as are conferred on a M.O.H. By sub-section 5 a C.M.O. "shall be removable by the County Council with the consent of the Local Government Board and not otherwise."

Duties of
Clerks of
R.D.C.'s and
M.O.'s.H.
S. 69.

S. 69 of the new Act makes it the personal duty of the Clerk of a R.D.C. to forward to the C.M.O. a copy of any representation, complaint, or information made or given by the M.O.H. or any inhabitant householders to them or M.O.H. respecting any dwelling house being unfit for habitation, or respecting an "obstructive" building (for responsibilities of M.O.H. as to "obstructive" buildings, see "The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890." S. 38).

The attention of Clerks of R.D.C.'s is specially called to this provision of the Act, as they are now made personally responsible for forwarding "a copy of any representation, complaint, or information given by the M.O.H." to the C.M.O.

The same Section also imposes upon the M.O.H. the duty of giving the C.M.O. any information which it is in his power to give and which the C.M.O. may reasonably require from him for the purposes of his duties prescribed by the L.G.B. (Sub-sect. 2).

Any disputes as to this is (Sub-section 3) to be determined by the L.G.B., and Sub-section 4 will render the Clerk or M.O.H. who fails to comply with these provisions liable to a fine of £10.

G. H. FOSBROKE, D.P.H., Camb.,

County Medical Officer.

SHIREHALL, WORCESTER,

2nd February, 1910.

APPENDIX B.

Having ascertained that the Local Government Board had urged Local Authorities to contribute to Consumption Sanatoriums, I obtained the following copy of a letter the Board addressed to the "Docking Rural District Council" on the subject.

[Copy].

Local Government Board,

Whitehall, S.W.,

1st December, 1909.

Sir,

I am directed by the Local Government Board to advert to the letter which the Docking Rural District Council addressed to the President on the 5th ult., representing that it is desirable that provision should be made for the compulsory isolation of cases of Phthisis in the earliest stages of the disease.

In reply thereto I am to point out that the Rural District Council and the Guardians already possess powers enabling them to take important measures for combatting the disease.

The Board are advised that the compulsory isolation of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in their earliest stage is impracticable, and that the best measure in regard to such cases is the reception of the patients voluntarily into Sanatoria for a limited period, during which they may be instructed as to the means which they should themselves employ to combat their disease and to prevent the spread of infection to others. With such training there is every reason to hope that the patients' means of livelihood need not be interfered with—a point of much importance in the case of patients of the poorer classes. I am to draw attention to the remarks in regard to such training on page 11 of the Memorandum of the Board's Medical Officer on Administrative Measures against Tuberculosis, a copy of which has been forwarded to the Rural District Council.

As regards advanced cases of pulmonary tuberculosis which are, it is believed, the chief source of the infection of healthy persons, I am

to point out that it is competent to the Guardians to arrange for the efficient treatment of patients in the receipt of medical relief from the Guardians in their infirmary or some other suitable institution under conditions which will afford the greatest benefit to the patients, while preventing the spread of infection in small ill-ventilated cottage homes such as are referred to in your letter.

Under Art. ix. (2) of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1908, the Rural District Council have ample power in regard to poor persons to take any measures and supplying assistance within such reasonable limits as the circumstances of the case require and allow, as will obviate the risk of infection, especially from the use by the poor persons of an infected sleeping apartment.

Under s. 131 of the Public Health Act 1875, the Rural District Council have power to provide for the treatment in a sanatorium of persons from their district suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, whether suffering from the early or the advanced stage of the disease, and to defray, in whole or in part, the cost of their maintenance in the sanatorium. If such accommodation were provided by the Rural District Council, it would be competent to the Guardians to arrange for the reception, when necessary, of any persons in receipt of medical aid from the Guardians upon such terms as may be mutually agreed upon by the Guardians and the Rural District Council. I am also to state that it is competent to the County Council to take steps with a view to the provision of hospital accommodation for cases of pulmonary tuberculosis under the Isolation Hospitals Acts, 1893 and 1901.

The Board are advised that much good work can be successfully carried out under the powers indicated above, and they would recommend the Rural District Council and the Guardians to co-operate in utilising those powers to the full extent of their possibilities.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(signed) JOHN LITHIBY,

Assistant Secretary.

J. A. STOUGHTON, ESQ.,

Clerk to the Docking Rural District Council,

Fakenham.

APPENDIX C.

Disinfection.

There is no doubt, that infection is spread, to a much greater extent by infectious persons, than by infectious things, and that disinfection of rooms or of particular articles should be undertaken when there is reason to believe that these have been infected. Sulphur fumigation of rooms has not proved to be so effective as was at one time supposed; and consequently is inadvisable. The most efficient way (at present known) of disinfecting houses is to spray them with Formalin (40 per cent solution of formic aldehyde) solution of a strength of 1 in 50, or to fumigate them with the same disinfectant. Messrs. Rowan Bros., 121, Narrow Street, Limeshouse, E., supply the "Mackenzie Sprayer" for £3 10s., and The Formalin Hygienic Co., 3, Lloyds Avenue, London, E.C., supply an "Alformant Lamp," sufficiently large to fumigate a room of 4,000 cubic feet, for 10/6. The Evesham Corporation and Evesham and Feckenham Rural District Councils have already purchased such appliances. Formalin is the best gaseous disinfectant at present known. The room should be securely sealed up, the temperature should not be less than 60° F., the air should be moist, and the duration of exposure should be at least four hours. For small rooms the Alformant Lamp is the most useful, 30 to 40 Paraform Tabloids being used for every 1,000 cubic feet of space. For large rooms, Lingner's Glycoformal Apparatus is preferable. After the spraying or fumigation has been carried out, thorough scrubbing and cleansing of the floors, walls, and furniture are essential. If infected articles cannot be thoroughly boiled they should be treated in an efficient "Steam Disinfector," and the cheapest of these now in the market is known as the "Thresh Disinfector." Books have a tendency to retain infection, and are most difficult to disinfect. Various methods have been suggested, but none are thoroughly satisfactory. The best method, though a drastic one, is to burn them, for even if an efficient disinfector be available, the books are almost certain to be damaged.

The beneficial effect of sunshine and fresh air in destroying infection should be remembered.

APPENDIX C.

Disinfectants.

It should be clearly understood that the cause of unpleasant smells ought to be traced and removed, and not temporarily concealed by disinfectants. The medium strength of Formalin solution for general purposes is 1 in 20. A most reliable, but very poisonous disinfectant, is corrosive sublimate (perchloride of mercury). A convenient form in which this is made up, is known as "St. Bede Disinfectant," and is sold in small solid blocks, four of which should be dissolved in each gallon of water, to constitute the required strength of the solution. Another convenient disinfectant solution can be prepared by mixing half-a-pint of carbolic acid with three gallons of water. In view of its permanent and relatively non-poisonous characters, izal, 1 in 100, is useful for washing floors and all surfaces capable of being washed.

For disinfection of privies, ashpits, middens, and cesspools, etc., carbolic powder should be used in sufficient quantities to destroy all trace of any offensive odour.
